GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2752
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2000
GUIDELINES FOR HOSPITALS NURSING HOMES
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce guidelines for hospitals and nursing homes across the country;

(b) if so, whether the guidelines in this regard have been prepared;

(c) whether these guidelines were also discussed in a workshop organized by World Health Organisation;

(d) if so, the details of the proposed guidelines;

(e) whether the Government have sought the views of the State Governments also on these guidelines; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(f): `Health` is a State subject under the Constitution of India and it is the responsibility of every State/Union Territory to frame guidelines to regulate the functions of hospitals and nursing homes in the State/Union Territory under the rules/laws available in the State/Union Territory.
Two National Workshops were organised by Medical Council of India with WHO assistanceon the 18th and 19th August, 1999 and the 18th & 19th January, 2000 for determining the minimum standards for registration of nursing homes & hospitals and devising mechanisms for implementation of minimum standards for registration of nursing homes & hospitals. The proceedings of the National Workshop have been circulated to all States/Union Territories on the 19th May, 2000 with the request to furnish their comments on the recommendations of the National Workshop. The comments have been received from Government of Tamil Nadu and Administration of Lakshadweep. The Government of Tamil Nadu have concurred with the recommendations of the Workshop. The Lakshadweep Administration has indicated that it does not have private nursing homes or hospitals. The comments from other States/Union Territories are awaited. However, Government of India is considering to issue notification of minimum standards of physical infrastructure and manpower in all hospitals, nursing homes and diagnostic centres offering medical services in the country.

The above proposal is at the initial stage and it is not possible to indicate the time that will be required to reach finality.